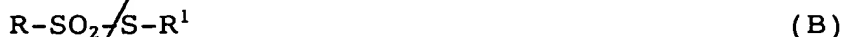


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

*sub 11* 1. An internal latent image type direct positive photographic silver halide emulsion comprising tabular silver halide grains having an average grain diameter of not less than 0.3  $\mu\text{m}$  and an aspect ratio of from not less than 2 to not more than 100 in an amount of not less than 50 % of all silver halide grains as calculated in terms of area, wherein the average grain thickness a along the main plane of the external shell thereof is from not less than 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  to not more than 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  and the average grain thickness b perpendicular to the main plane of the external shell thereof is from not less than 0.04  $\mu\text{m}$  to not more than 0.30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

2. The internal latent image type direct positive photographic silver halide emulsion according to Claim 1, which is prepared from a seed crystal emulsion which has been prepared via desalting process.

3. The internal latent image type direct positive photographic silver halide emulsion according to Claim 1, wherein grains are subjected to chemical sensitization in the presence of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of compounds represented by the following formula (A), (B) or (C):



wherein  $\text{R}$ ,  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  may be the same or different and each

represents an aliphatic group, aromatic group or heterocyclic group; M represents a cation; L represents a divalent linking group; m represents 0 or an integer of 1; the compounds of the formula (A), (B) or (C) may be each in the form of polymer containing as a repeating unit a divalent group derived from the structures represented by the formulae (A), (B) and (C), respectively; and R, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and L may be optionally connected to each other to form a ring.

a 4. The internal latent image type direct positive photographic silver halide emulsion according to Claim 3, wherein the chemical sensitization of core grains is effected in the presence of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of the compounds represented by the formula (A), (B) or (C) and a gold sensitizer in combination under the condition that substantially no thiosulfate ion is present during the chemical sensitization.

Sub a 5. The internal latent image type direct positive photographic silver halide emulsion according to Claim 3, wherein the silver halide phase of the external shell is formed in the presence of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of the compounds represented by the formula (A), (B) or (C).

a 6. The internal latent image ~~type~~ direct positive photographic silver halide emulsion according to Claim 3, which is prepared from a seed crystal emulsion which has been prepared via desalting process.

7. The internal latent image ~~type~~ direct positive photographic silver halide emulsion according to Claim 1, wherein the average grain thickness a along the main plane of the external shell thereof is from not less than 0.4  $\mu\text{m}$  to not more than 1.0  $\mu\text{m}$  and the average grain thickness b perpendicular to the main plane of the external shell thereof is from not ~~more~~<sup>less</sup> than 0.06  $\mu\text{m}$  to not more than 0.15  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8. <sup>A</sup> The internal latent image ~~type~~ direct positive photographic silver halide emulsion according to Claim 1, wherein the thickness of grains are so uniform that the coefficient of variation of thickness is not more than 30 %.

sub 27  
9. A color diffusion transfer photographic light-sensitive material comprising at least one photosensitive silver halide emulsion layer combined with a dye image-forming substance provided on a support, said dye image-forming substance comprising a nondiffusive compound represented by the following formula (I) which releases a diffusive dye or precursor thereof or changes in its diffusivity in connection with silver development, wherein said at least one silver halide emulsion layer comprises at least one internal latent image type direct positive photographic silver halide emulsion comprising tabular silver halide grains having an average grain diameter of not less than 0.3  $\mu\text{m}$  and an aspect ratio of from not less than 2 to not more than 100 in an amount of not less than 50 % of all silver halide grains as calculated in terms of area, with the

average grain thickness a along the main plane of the external shell thereof being from not less than 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  to not more than 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  and the average grain thickness b perpendicular to the main plane of the external shell thereof being from not less than 0.04  $\mu\text{m}$  to not more than 0.30  $\mu\text{m}$ :

$$(\text{DYE} - \text{Y})_n - \text{Z} \quad (\text{I})$$

wherein DYE represents a dye group or a dye group or dye precursor group whose absorption wavelength has been temporarily shifted to short wavelength; Y represents a mere bond or bridging group; Z represents a group which makes difference in the diffusivity of the compound represented by  $(\text{DYE} - \text{Y})_n - \text{Z}$  or releases DYE to make difference in diffusivity between the released DYE and  $(\text{DYE} - \text{Y})_n - \text{Z}$  in correspondence or counter correspondence to a photosensitive silver salt having an imagewise latent image; and n represents an integer of 1 or 2, with the proviso that when n is 2, the plurality of  $(\text{DYE} - \text{Y})$ 's may be the same or different.

10. An internal latent image type direct positive photographic silver halide emulsion, prepared from a seed crystal emulsion which has been prepared via desalting process.